Panchayat roads.

213. Mr. Ouseph P. Kundukulam.—(a) Are the Government aware of the fact that a large precentage of roads constructed by the Panchayats are now unfit for public use;

(b) will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government has made an enquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, what means does the Government intend to remedy the defect:

(d) if the defect be the result of absence of co-operation among the different Panchayats, why the Government did not take proper steps to create the same?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) and (d). The questions do not arise in view of the answer to (a).

In-patients in the General Hospital.

214. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state of the in-patients in the General Hospital at Ernakulam during the years 1102 and 1103 how many are (1) Cochinites and (2) non-Cochinites?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—

Year.	Cochinites.	Non-cochinites.	Total in-patients.
1102	3,073	537	3,610
1103	2,999	492	3,491

Wells at Pazhayannur.

215. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government kindly state:—

(1) whether they are aware of the fact that the Sanitary Department wells at Pazhayannur are not at present thrown open to all classes of His Highness' subjects;

(2) whether they are aware that only caste-Hindus are given access to, so far as the above-mentioned wells are concerned and that as a practice even the Christians are not allowed to draw water out of these wells;

(3) whether they are aware that the old custom of keeping these wells out of the reach of the Christians, Ezhuvas and other classes of His Highness' subjects is even now continued, causing very great hardship to these people?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) Government are aware that certain wells in Pazhayannur are not used by all classes of people.

(2) As there are no permanent Christian residents at Pazhayannur at present, the Government had not the opportunity to note the disadvantage pointed out in the question.

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(3) Government are not aware of any such hardship

Filthy and insanitary condition of Azhikkal.

216. Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the filthy and insanitary condition of the the thickly populated region of Azhikkal, which owing to its close proximity to the town of Cochin is fast developing into a slum area?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. A scheme for the improvement of rural sanitation is under the consideration of Government. Early attention will be paid to the improvement of the area in question when this scheme matures.

Medical Examination of School Children.

217. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the Table a consolidated result of the medical examination of schools, carried out during the last three years, especially with reference to the following points:—

(1) what disease was most common (a)among boys, (b) amongst girls with reference to each school;

(2) whether any action was taken as a result of the inspection?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(i) A consolidated statement containing information on the points (i) (a) & (b) is placed on the Council Table.

(2) Health cards have been issued to the guardians and the Headmasters have been advised to direct the pupils to the nearest medical institution for treatment of the defects pointed out. Copies of inspection reports have been forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction also for necessary action.

Government Almanac and its publication.

218. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many copies of the Government Almanac are printed every year;

(b) how many of these copies are required by the Government for their own use ;

(c) how is the rest disposed of;

(d) is any commission allowed on the sale; if allowed, how much;

(e) at what price is each copy sold;

(f) what is the total amount of expenditure incurred for this purpose including the pay of the astrologers, cost of printing paper and binding;

(g) what does each copy for Government use cost;

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